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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

MICHAEL R. STYLER
Executive Director

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Division Director

Inspection Report

Minerals Regulatory Program

Report Date: November 6, 2006

Supervisor

[Signature]

Mine Name: Cameron #1
Operator Name: TME Asphalt Ridge, LLC

Permit number: M0470036
Inspection Date: November 1, 2006
Time: 7:50-9:35 AM

Inspector(s): Paul Baker
Other Participants: None
Mine Status: Active

Elements of Inspection

1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds
2. Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)
3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control
4. Deleterious Material
5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)
6. Concurrent Reclamation
7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads,
8. Soils
9. Revegetation
10. Other

Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
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Purpose of Inspection:

This was a routine inspection.

Inspection Summary:

1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds

On April 11, 2006, the Division received a Notice of Intention to Commence Large Mining Operations. The Division's review was sent June 29, 2006, and the operator has yet to reply.

On March 8, 2006, the Division approved the transfer of this mine from Asphalt Ridge, Inc., to TME Asphalt Ridge, LLC. The new operator submitted a reclamation surety of \$22,100.00.

3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control

The operator has widened the road coming into the site, including the portion across the stream (Photo 1). The area next to the stream (to the left in Photo 1 and to the right but not shown) would probably be classified as a wetland: nearly all of the vegetation is willows. Fill material has been pushed into this area.

There is no sediment control between the regraded/seeded area and the stream (Photo 2).

Other parts of the mine are close to the stream, but I could not see any other areas where operations have affected the stream or associated wetlands.

5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)

The road leading to the substation has been graded (Photo 3).

Trenches have been dug across some of the roads leading into the site from adjacent areas. The operator previously told me there had been some trouble with theft, and I suspect the trenches are to try to keep unauthorized vehicles out of the area.

8. Soils

I could not see anything that looked like a soil stockpile from areas that have been recently disturbed.

9. Revegetation

In the fall of 2005, the operator graded and seeded a 2.04-acre area (yellow area on the attached map; foreground of Photo 4). I could not see any signs of germinating vegetation when I visited the site last spring, but during the current inspection I was able to find some grass seedlings. It is impossible to identify these seedlings with certainty, but most did not appear to be cheatgrass. I believe some seed may have survived and is just now germinating because of recent heavy rains in the area. In addition to the grass seedlings, the area contains a fair amount of dried up halogeton.

10. Other

The operator has expanded the disturbance in a few areas. These include the road coming across the stream which now has a total disturbance width of about 40 feet, the road to the substation which has been graded and should now be included as part of the disturbed area, the water tank and water line near the substation (Photo 5), an area with two portable storage units (Photo 6), and an area next to the pit that was formerly undisturbed (left side of Photo 7).

I used a GPS unit to map the disturbed area, and a copy of this map is included with this report. The total disturbed area is 9.28 acres which includes 2.04 acres that was graded and seeded in 2005 (yellow on the attached map). This figure also includes all those areas mentioned above, but it does not include the road from SR 45 to the regraded/seeded area (red and black on the map). It also does not include a 1.02-acre area, in blue-green on the map, that may have been disturbed at some time in the past.

Facilities and equipment on the site include a trackhoe, a grader, five plastic tanks, and six portable storage units.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

The area next to the road shown in Photo 1 is probably a wetland, and if it is, putting any kind of fill into this area without a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers is a violation of the Clean Water Act. I have reported the activity to the Corps and assume they will investigate and make their own determination whether a violation has occurred.

There are many roads in the vicinity of this site, and the record in the file is not clear which ones have previously been included as part of the permitted area. There is a locked gate across the access road from SR 45, so although I did not include this road as part of the permitted area, an argument could be made that it should be permitted. I did include the road across the regraded/seeded area to the main site because it appears to be part of "on-site transportation" facilities described in the rules. The road to the water tank and water lines has apparently been in existence, but the operator has graded it and has been using it.

I will be issuing a cessation order to the operator for expanding the operation beyond five acres without first gaining approval of a notice of intention to commence large mining operations. The existing surety may be adequate for reclamation of the disturbance, but that needs to be evaluated.

I will not be issuing a violation for failure to salvage topsoil, but it does not appear the operator has saved topsoil from the newly-disturbed areas. Because of the geologic nature of this area, topsoil is very important for revegetation of the site.

Sediment control should be installed between the regraded/seeded area and the stream (Photo 2).

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Inspection Date: November 1, 2006; Report Date: November 14, 2006
M0470036

Inspector's Signature LEB M Date: 11/14/06

cc: Jim Runquist, TME
Dick Lecy, TME

PBB:pb

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ATTACHMENT

Photographs

M0470036, Cameron #1 Mine, TME Asphalt Ridge, LLC

Inspection Dated: November 1, 2006; Report Dated: November 6, 2006



Photo 1. The road across the stream. The total disturbance width is about 40 feet. Note the willows on the left; they are on both sides of the road.



Photo 2. A portion of the area between the regraded/seeded area and the stream.



Photo 3. The road leading to the substation and water tank/line.



Photo 4. The area in the foreground was regraded and seeded in 2005.



Photo 5. The water tank and part of the water line near the substation.



Photo 7. The area on the left is new disturbance. The pit is on the right.



Photo 6. This pad is new disturbance.



Photo 8. Another view of the pit.



Photo 9. The main operations area.

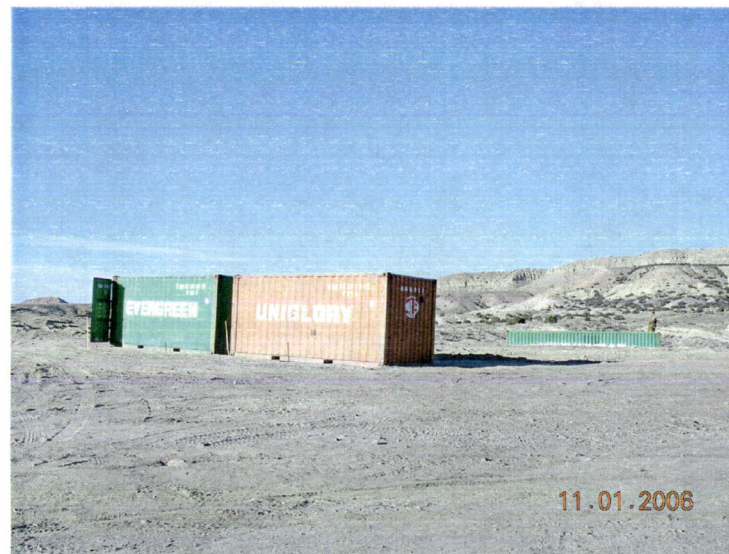
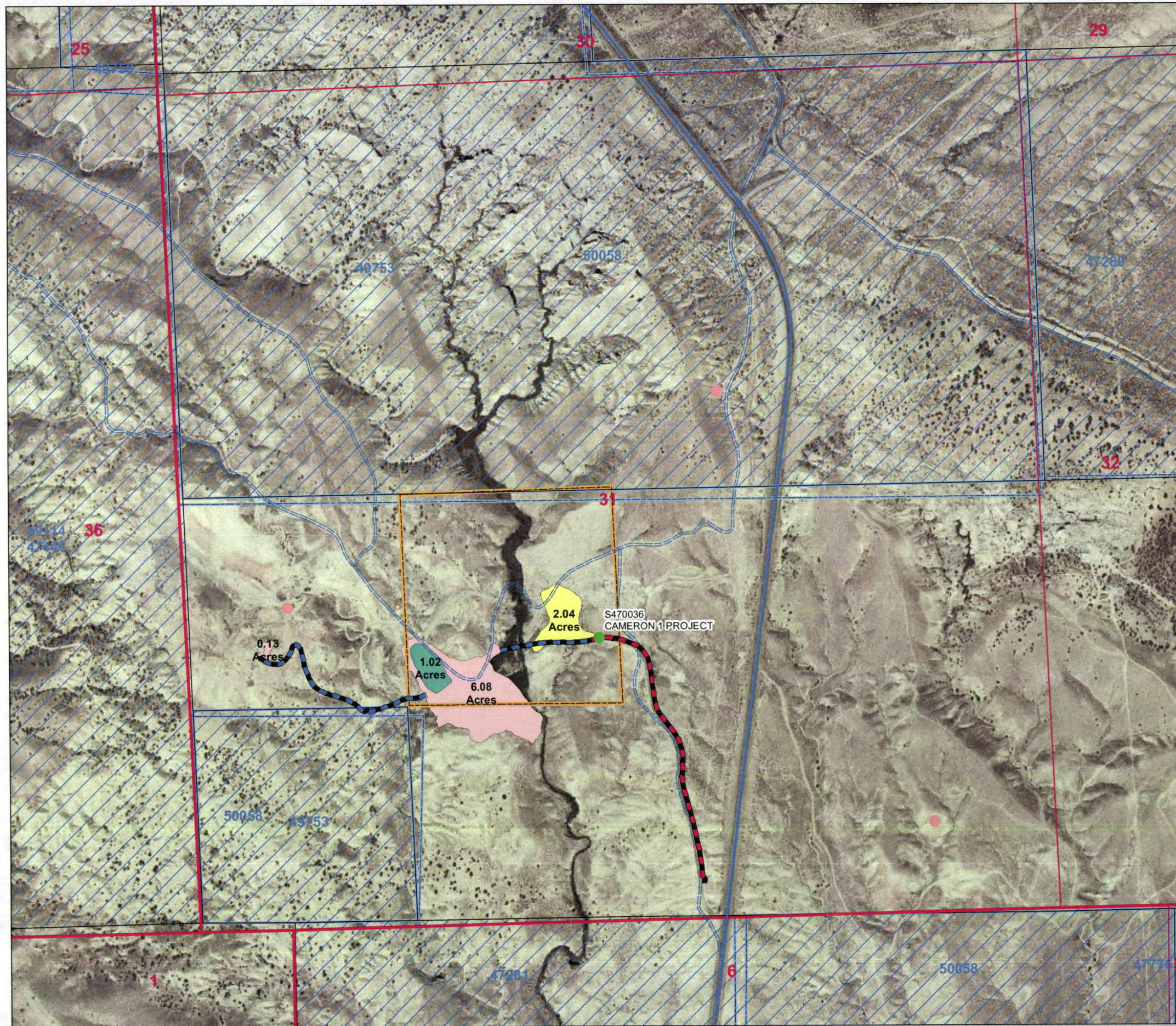


Photo 10. Another view of the area shown in Photo 6.



Photo 11. The area in the foreground is new disturbance. This view is looking approximately southeast, parallel to the pit.



Mine Number: S0470036
Mine Name: Cameron 1 Project
Township 05 S Range 22 E Section 31 SLBM

Inspection Date Nov. 01, 2006
 Map Produced by DKS

Acres Disturbed	6.21
Acres Regraded	0
Acres Seeded	2.04
Road Acres Disturbed	1.03

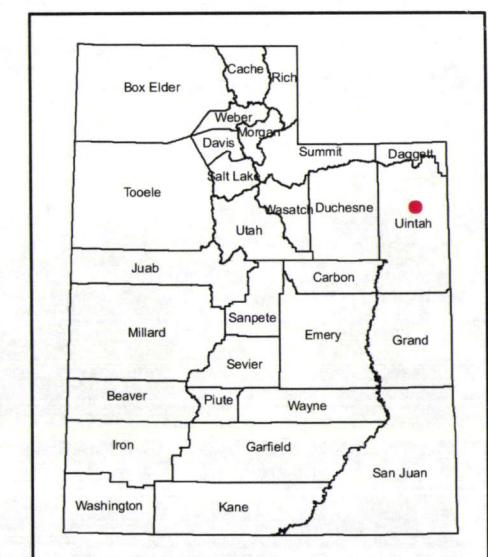
Total Acres Disturbed	9.28
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Acres Reclaimed	0
Acres Excluded	0
Acres Prelaw	0

Legend
 All items symbolized in legend may not be appear on map

- County Boundary
- Access
- Mine
- NonMine
- Other
- Interstate
- US Route
- State Route
- Primary Route
- Secondary Route
- Main Dirt Road
- Unimproved Road
- Interchange
- Trail
- Township or range Line
- Township or range line: location doubtful
- Section line
- Section line: location doubtful

DOQ imagery date 2004



0 625

Feet

1:7,500 1 inch equals 625 feet

Verify Scale

Dept. of Natural Resources
 Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining
 Mineral Mines Program

Different data sources and input scales
 may cause misalignment of data layers.
 This product may not meet DOGM
 standards for accuracy and content.